

FOW

So large
The prospect was, that here and there was room
For barren desert *fountainless* and dry. *Milton's Parad. Reg.*
Fo'UNTFUL. *adj.* [from *font* and *full*.] Full of springs.
But when the *fo'untful* Ida's top they scal'd with utmost
haste,
All fell upon the high-hair'd oaks. *Chapman's Iliads.*
To FOWLE. *v. a.* To drive with sudden impetuosity. A word
out of use.
We pronounce, by the confession of strangers, as smoothly
and moderately as any of the northern nations, who *fo'uple*
their words out of the throat with fat and full spirits. *Camden.*
FOUR. *adj.* [proper, Saxon.] Twice two.
Just as I with'd, the lots were cast on *four*;
Myself the fifth. *Pope's Odyssey, b. ix.*
FOURBE. *n. f.* [French.] A cheat; a tricking fellow. Not
in use.
Jove's envoy, through the air,
Brings dismal tidings; as if such low care
Could reach their thoughts, or their repose disturb!
Thou art a false impostor, and a *fourbe*. *Denham.*
FOURFO'LD. *adj.* [from *four* and *fold*.] Four times told.
He shall restore the lamb *fourfold*, because he had no pity.
2 Sa. xii. 6.
FOURFO'OTED. *adj.* [from *four* and *foot*.] Quadrum; having
twice two feet.
Augur Aftylos, whose art in vain
From fight dissuaded the *fourfooted* train,
Now beat the hoof with Neflus on the plain. *Dryden.*
FOURSCORE. *adj.* [from *four* and *score*.]
1. Four times twenty; eighty.
When they were out of reach, they turned and crossed the
ocean to Spain, having lost *fourscore* of their ships, and the
greater part of their men. *Bacon's War with Spain.*
The Chiois were first a free people, being a common-
wealth, maintaining a navy of *fourscore* ships. *Sandys.*
The Liturgy had, by the practice of near *fourscore* years,
obtained great veneration from all sober Protestants. *Clarend.*
2. It is used elliptically for *fourscore* years in numbering the
age of man.
At seventeen years many their fortunes seek;
But at *fourscore* it is too late a week. *Shak. As you like it.*
Some few might be of use in council upon great occasions,
'till after threecore and ten; and the two late ministers in
Spain were so 'till *fourcore*. *Temple.*
FOURSQU'ARE. *adj.* [from *four* and *square*.] Quadrangular; having
four sides and angles equal.
The temple of Bel was invironed with a wall carried *four-*
square, of great height and beauty; and on each square cer-
tain brazen gates curiously engraven. *Raleigh's History.*
FOURTEEN. *adj.* [proper, Saxon.] Four and ten; twice
seven.
She says I am not *fourteen* pence on the score for sheer ale.
Shakespeare's Taming of the Shrew.
FOURTEENTH. *adj.* [from *fourteen*.] The ordinal of fourteen;
the fourth after the tenth.
I have not found any that see the ninth day, few before the
twelfth, and the eyes of some not open before the *fourteenth*
day. *Brown's Vulgar Errors, b. iii. c. 26.*
FOURTH. *adj.* [from *four*.] The ordinal of four; the first
after the third.
A third is like the former: filthy hags!
Why do you frown me this? A *fourth*? Hart eye!
What! will the line stretch out to th' crack of doom? *Shak.*
Fo'URTHLY. *adv.* [from *fourth*.] In the fourth place.
Fourthly, plants have their seed and seminal parts uppermost,
and living creatures have them lowermost. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.*
FOURWHE'ELED. *adj.* [from *four* and *wheel*.] Running upon twice
two wheels.
Scarce twenty *fourwheel'd* cars, compact and strong,
The maffy load could bear, and roll along. *Pope's Odyssey.*
Fo'UTRA. *n. f.* [from *four* and *French*.] A fig; a scoff; an act
of contempt.
A *fourtra* for the world, and worldlings base. *Shak. H. IV.*
FOWL. *n. f.* [pugil, Saxon; *vogel*, Dutch.] A winged
animal; a bird. It is colloquially used of edible birds, but in
books of all the feathered tribes.
The beasts, the fishes, and the winged *fowls*,
Are their males subjects, and at their controuls. *Shaksp.*
Lucullus entertained Pompey in a magnificent house: Pom-
pey said, this is a marvellous house for the Summer; but me-
thinks very cold for Winter. Lucullus answered, do you not
think me as wise as divers *fowls*, to change my habitation in
the Winter season. *Bacon's Apophthegms.*
This mighty breath
Instructs the *fowls* of heaven. *Thomson's Spring.*
To FOWL. *v. n.* [from the noun.] To kill birds for food or
game.
Fo'WLER. *n. f.* [from *fowl*.] A sportsman who pursues birds.
The *fowler*, warn'd
By those good omens, with swift early steps
Treads the crimp earth, ranging through fields and glades,
Offensive to the birds. *Phillips.*

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With slaughter'ing guns th' unweary'd *fowler* roves,
When frosts have whiten'd all the naked groves. *Pope.*
Fo'WLINGPIECE. *n. f.* [from *fowl* and *piece*.] A gun for birds.
'Tis necessary that the countryman be provided with a good
fowlingpiece, to destroy and scare them away. *Mortimer.*
FOX. *n. f.* [fox, Saxon; *vos*, *vofch*, Dutch.]
1. A wild animal of the canine kind, with sharp ears and a
bushy tail, remarkable for his cunning, living in holes, and
preying upon fowls or small animals.
The *fox* barks not when he would steal the lamb. *Shaksp.*
He that trusts to you,
Where he should find you lions, finds you hares;
Where *foxes*, geese. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*
These retreats are more like the dens of robbers, or holes
of *foxes*, than the fortresses of fair warriors. *Locke.*
2. By way of reproach, applied to a knave or cunning fellow.
Fo'XCASE. *n. f.* [from *fox* and *case*.] A fox's skin.
One had better be laughed at for taking a *foxcase* for a fox,
than be destroyed by taking a live fox for a case. *L'Estrange.*
Fo'XCHASE. *n. f.* [from *fox* and *chase*.] The pursuit of the fox
with hounds.
See the same man, in vigour, in the gout;
Alone, in company; in place or out;
Early at business, and at hazard late;
Mad at a *foxchase*, wife at a debate. *Pope, Epistle i.*
Fo'XEVIL. *n. f.* [from *fox* and *evil*.] A kind of disease in which the
hair sheds.
Fo'XGLOVES. *n. f.* A plant.
The leaves are produced alternately on the branches: the
cup of the flower consists of one leaf, which is divided into
six ample long segments: the flower consists of one leaf, is
tubulose and compressed, and a little reflexed at the brim:
these flowers are disposed in a long spike, and always grow
upon one side of the stalk: the ovary of the flower becomes a
roundish fruit, which ends in a point, and opens in the mid-
dle: it has two cells, in which many small seeds are con-
tained. *Miller.*
Fo'XHUNTER. *n. f.* [from *fox* and *hunter*.] A man whose chief
ambition is to shew his bravery in hunting foxes. A term of
reproach used of country gentlemen.
The *foxhunters* went their way, and then out steals the
fox. *L'Estrange, Fable 104.*
John Wildfire, *foxhunter*, broke his neck over a six-bar
gate. *Spektator, No. 561.*
Fo'XSHIP. *n. f.* [from *fox*.] The character or qualities of a
fox; cunning; mischievous art.
Hadst thou *foxship*
To banish him that struck more blows for Rome,
Than thou hast spoken words. *Shakespeare's Coriolanus.*
Fo'XTRAP. *n. f.* [from *fox* and *trap*.] A gin or snare to catch
foxes.
Answer a question, at what hour of the night to set a
foxtrap. *Tatler, No. 56.*
FoY. *n. f.* [foi, French.] Faith; allegiance. An obsolete
word.
He Easterland subdued, and Denmark won,
And of them both did *foy* and tribute raise. *Fairy Queen.*
To FRACT. *v. a.* [from *fractus*, Latin.] To break; to violate; to
infringe. Found perhaps only in the following passage.
His days and times are past,
And my reliance on his *fracted* dates
Has smit my credit. *Shakespeare's Timon.*
FRACTION. *n. f.* [from *fractio*, Fr. *fractio*, Latin.]
1. The act of breaking; the state of being broken.
It hath been observed by several, that the surface of the
earth hath been broke, and the parts of it dislocated; but more
particularly several parcels of nature retain still the evident
marks of *fraction* and ruin. *Burnet's Theory of the Earth.*
2. A broken part of an integral.
Neither the motion of the moon, whereby months are
computed, nor the sun, whereby years are accounted, con-
sisteth of whole numbers, but admits of *fractions* and broken
parts. *Brown's Vulgar Errors, b. iv. c. 13.*
Pliny put a round number near the truth, rather than a
fraction. *Arbutnot on Coins.*
FRACTIONAL. *adj.* [from *fraction*.] Belonging to a broken
number.
We make a cypher the medium between increasing and
decreasing numbers, commonly called absolute or whole num-
bers, and negative or *fractional* numbers. *Cocker's Arithmetick.*
FRACTURE. *n. f.* [from *fractura*, Latin.]
1. Breach; separation of continuous parts.
That may do it without any great *fracture* of the more
stable and fixed parts of nature, or the infringement of the
laws thereof. *Hale's Origin of Mankind.*
2. The separation of the continuity of a bone in living bodies.
But thou wilt sin and grief destroy,
That to the broken bones may joy,
And tune together in a well-fet song,
Full of his praises,
Who dead men raises;
Fractures well cur'd, make us more strong. *Herbert.*
Fractures

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Fractures of the skull are dangerous, not in consequence of
the injury done to the cranium itself, but as the brain becomes
affected. *Sharp's Surgery.*
To FRACTURE. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To break a bone.
The leg was dressed, and the *fractured* bones united toge-
ther. *Wise's Surgery.*
FRAGILE. *adj.* [from *fragile*, French; *fragilis*, Latin.]
1. Brittle; easily snapped or broken.
To ease them of their griefs,
Their pangs of love, and other incident throes,
That nature's *fragile* vessel doth sustain
In life's uncertain voyage. *Shakespeare's Timon.*
The stalk of ivy is tough, and not *fragile*. *Bacon's N. Hist.*
When subtle wits have spun their threads too fine,
'Tis weak and *fragile*, like Arachne's line. *Denham.*
A dry stick will be easily broken, when a green one will
maintain a strong resistance; and yet in the moist substance
there is less rest than in what is drier and more *fragile*. *Glauv.*
2. Weak; uncertain; easily destroyed.
Much ostentation, vain of fleshly arms,
And *fragile* arms, much instrument of war,
Long in preparing, soon to nothing brought,
Before mine eyes thou'lt set. *Milton's Paradise Regain'd.*
FRAGILITY. *n. f.* [from *fragile*.]
1. Brittleness; easiness to be broken.
To make an induration with toughness, and less *fragility*,
decoat bodies in water for two or three days. *Bacon's N. Hist.*
2. Weakness; uncertainty; easiness to be destroyed.
Fearing the uncertainty of man's *fragility*, the common
chance of war, the violence of fortune. *Kneller's History.*
3. Frailty; lability to fault.
All could not be right, in such a state, in this lower age of
fragility. *Watson.*
FRAGMENT. *n. f.* [from *fragmentum*, Latin.] A part broken
from the whole; an imperfect piece.
He who late a sceptre did command,
Now grasps a floating *fragment* in his hand. *Dryden.*
Cowley, in his unfinished *fragment* of the Davids, has
shewn us this way to improvement. *Watts's Improvement.*
If a thinned or plated body, which, being of an even thick-
ness, appears all over of one uniform colour, should be slit
into threads, or broken into *fragments* of the same thickness
with the plate, I see no reason why every thread or *fragment*
should not keep its colour. *Newton's Opt.*
FRA'GMENTARY. *adj.* [from *fragment*.] Composed of frag-
ments. A word not elegant, nor in use.
She, she is gone; she's gone: when thou know'st this,
What *fragmentary* rubbish this world is,
Thou know'st, and that it is not worth a thought;
He knows it too too much that thinks it nought. *Donne.*
FRAGOR. *n. f.* [Latin.] A noise; a crack; a crash.
Purs'd by hideous *fragors*, as before
The flames descend, they in their breaches roar. *Sandys.*
FRA'GRANCE. *n. f.* [from *fragrantia*, Lat.] Sweetness of smell;
FRA'GRANCY. *n. f.* [from *fragrantia*, Lat.] Sweetness of smell;
pleasing scent; grateful odour.
Eve separate he spies,
Veil'd in a cloud of *fragrance*, where she stood
Half-spy'd. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. ix.*
I am more pleas'd to survey my rows of coleworts and cab-
bages springing up in their full *fragrancy* and verdure, than to
see the tender plants of foreign countries kept alive by artifi-
cial heats. *Addison's Spectator, No. 47.*
Not lovelier seem'd Narcissus to the eye;
Nor, when a flower, could boast more *fragrancy*. *Garth.*
Such was the wine; to quench whole fervent steam
Scarce twenty measures from the living stream
To cool one cup suffic'd: the goblet crown'd,
Breath'd aromatic *fragrances* around. *Pope's Odyssey, b. ix.*
FRA'GRANT. *adj.* [from *fragrant*, Latin.] Odorous; sweet of
smell.
The nymph vouchsaf'd to place
Upon her head the various wreath:
The flow'rs, less blooming than her face;
Their scent, less *fragrant* than her breath. *Prior.*
FRA'GRANTLY. *adv.* [from *fragrant*.] With sweet scent.
As the hops begin to change colour, and smell *fragrantly*,
you may conclude them ripe. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*
FRAIL. *n. f.*
1. A basket made of rushes.
2. A rush for weaving baskets.
FRAIL. *adj.* [from *fragilis*, Latin.]
1. Weak; easily decaying; subject to casualties; easily de-
stroyed.
I know my body's of so *frail* a kind,
As force without, fevers within can kill.
When with care we have rais'd this imaginary treasure of
happiness, we find, at last, that the materials of the structure
are *frail* and perishing, and the foundation itself is laid in the
sand. *Rogers's Sermon 5.*
2. Weak of resolution; liable to error or seduction.
The truly virtuous do not easily credit evil that is told them
of their neighbours; for if others may do amiss, then may

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these also speak amiss: man is *frail*, and prone to evil, and
therefore may soon fall in words. *Taylor's Guide to Devotion.*
FRA'ILNESS. *n. f.* [from *frail*.] Weakness; infirmity.
There is nothing among all the *frailnesses* and uncertainties
of this sublunary world so tottering and unstable as the virtue
of a coward. *Norris.*
FRA'ILTY. *n. f.* [from *frail*.]
1. Weakness of resolution; infirmity of mind; infirmity.
Though Page be a secure fool, and stands so firmly on his
wife's *frailty*, yet I cannot put off my opinion so easily. *Shak.*
Nor should'st thou have trusted that to woman's *frailty*:
Ere I to thee, thou to thyself wast cruel. *Milton's Agonies.*
God knows our *frailty*, pities our weakness, and requires
of us no more than we are able to do. *Locke.*
2. Fault proceeding from weakness; sins of infirmity.
Love did his reason blind,
And love's the noblest *frailty* of the mind. *Dryd. Ind. Emp.*
Kind wits will those light faults excuse;
Those are the common *frailties* of the mule. *Dryden.*
Death, only death, can break the lasting chain;
And here, ev'n then, shall my cold dust remain;
Here all its *frailties*, all its flames resign,
And wait, till 'tis no sin to mix with thine. *Pope.*
FRAISCHUR. *n. f.* [French.] Freshness; coolness. A
word foolishly innovated by *Dryden*.
Hither in summer-evenings you repair,
To taste the *fräischur* of the purer air. *Dryden.*
FRAISE. *n. f.* [French, the caul of an animal.] A pancake
with bacon in it.
To FRAME. *v. a.*
1. To form or fabricate by orderly construction and union of
various parts.
The double gates he findeth locked fast;
The one fair *fram'd* of burnish'd ivory,
The other all with silver overcast. *Spenser.*
2. To fit one to another.
They rather cut down their timber to *frame* it, and to do
other such necessities to their convenient use, than to fight.
Abbot's Description of the World.
Hew the timber, saw it out, *frame* it, and set it together.
Mortimer's Husbandry.
3. To make; to compose.
Then chusing out few words most horrible,
Thereof did verses *frame*. *Spenser.*
Fight valiantly to-day;
And yet I do thee wrong to mind thee of it;
For thou art *fram'd* of the firm truth of valour. *Shakespeare.*
4. To regulate; to adjust.
Let us not deceive ourselves by pretending to this excellent
knowledge of Christ Jesus our Lord, if we do not *frame* our
lives according to it. *Tillotson.*
5. To form to any rule or method by study or precept.
Thou art their soldier, and, being bred in broils,
Hast not the soft way; but thou wilt *frame*
Thyself forsooth hereafter theirs. *Shakespeare's Coriolanus.*
I have been a truant to the law;
I never yet could *frame* my will to it,
And therefore *frame* the law unto my will. *Shakespeare's H. VI.*
6. To form and digest by thought.
The most abstruse ideas are only such as the understanding
frames to itself, by joining together ideas that it had either from
objects of sense, or from its own operations about them. *Locke.*
Full of that flame his tender scenes he warms,
And *frames* his goddesses by your matchless charms. *Granv.*
Urge him with truth to *frame* his sure replies;
And sure he will; for wisdom never lies. *Pope's Odyssey.*
How many excellent reasonings are *framed* in the mind of a
man of wisdom and study in a length of years? *Watts.*
7. To contrive; to plan.
Unpardonable the presumption and insolence in contriving
and *framing* this letter was. *Clarendon, b. viii.*
8. To settle; to scheme out.
Though I cannot make true wars,
I'll *frame* convenient peace. *Shakespeare's Coriolanus.*
9. To invent; to fabricate, in a bad sense: as, to *frame* a story
or lie.
Astronomers, to solve the phenomena, *framed* to their con-
ceit eccentricities and epicycles. *Bacon.*
FRAME. *n. f.* [from the verb.]
1. A fabric; any thing constructed of various parts or mem-
bers.
If the *frame* of the heavenly arch should dissolve itself, if
celestial spheres should forget their wonted motions, and by
irregular volubility turn themselves any way, as it might
happen. *Hooker, b. i. l. 3.*
Castles made of trees upon *frames* of timber, with turrets
and arches, were anciently matters of magnificence. *Bacon.*
These are thy glorious works, parent of good!
Almighty! thine this universal *frame*. *Milt. Parad. Lost.*
Divine Cecilia came,
Inventress of the vocal *frame*. *Dryden.*